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TECH TRENDS

Google Glass: Cool? Yes. Stylish? Not so much. Google eyewear is really a computer.



Wireless gaining specs appeal

Post reporter tapped as "explorer" for Google Glass.

By Andrew Abramson
Palm Beach Post Staff Writer

In "Back to the Future II" – a movie that depicted life in 2015 – a young Elijah Wood and his friend tease Marty McFly for his love of a 1980s-era arcade game.

"You mean you have to use your hands?" Wood asks.

"That's like a baby's toy," his friend quips.

Well, it's almost 2015. And while we don't have flying cars or hover boards, the movie's vision of a wireless world with hand-less devices is becoming a reality.

Google Glass is set to hit the market sometime next year and I'm fortunate to be an "explorer" and have my own pair. Although the computer-on-your-face isn't mass-produced yet, Google has already rolled out its second model. It wants to work out all the kinks before it goes fully mainstream.

There are about 10,000 pairs out there now, with estimates of the tech giant selling 1 million next year and more than 20 million in five years.

As a Miami Dolphins beat reporter, I was interested in the device mainly for its video and photo capabilities. Video has become a huge part of sports reporting. While the traditional TV reporters still enter locker rooms with their bulky cameras, reporters are often uncomfortably holding up cell phones and shooting their own clips.

But wouldn't it be so much easier if you could just wear a video camera on your face? That's where Google Glass comes in.

I can shoot photos and videos simply by pressing a

Glass continued on F4



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Personal journeys

THE EXTRAORDINARY LIVES OF PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY

The 'LIFE FORCE' of Barrie Ingham



The professor: "The best way of teaching people is through humor," says Barrie Ingham. Last week, he enthralled his class at the Society of the Four Arts in Palm Beach. History's finest writers "grasp that the study of words can be one of the great pursuits of life," he told the class. "They illuminate the path for the rest of us." LANNIS WATERS PHOTOS / THE PALM BEACH POST

How the actor mastered the Bard – and almost became Capt. Picard



The "Star Trek" voyager: In one memorable "Next Generation" episode, Barrie Ingham (center) journeys into TV space with his old pal, fellow Shakespearean actor Patrick Stewart, who beat out Ingham for the part of Capt. Picard. Ingham is one of a handful of actors who has appeared in both "Doctor Who" and "Star Trek," making him a popular celebrity guest at sci-fi conventions. CONTRIBUTED BY CBS STUDIOS

By Lois Cahall
Special to The Palm Beach Post

Barrie Ingham loves words, lives words and recites them for a living anytime he's on a stage from London's West End to Broadway to Hollywood.

Last Monday, the actor's stage happened to be a classroom at the Society of Four Arts in Palm Beach, where he encouraged 15 students in his "Great British Dramatists" class to read plays out loud, to hear the cadence in the human voice, to pay attention to how great writers "use language to win."

"Plays, plays, plays! A wonderful source of wisdom," he exulted, then threw out a few lines from "Hamlet."

"My words fly up, my thoughts remain below: Words without thoughts never to heaven go."

Ah, "Hamlet" – a "play of words and a play on words" that changed Ingham's life when he was 24.

"It all started at the Old Vic in 1956 when I came out of the army. It was a Sunday morning and 400 people were standing in line to audition. Sixteen were chosen. Fortunately, I was

Ingham continued on F10

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